

## Message Text

SECRET

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62

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-03 SSO-00 INR-07 INRE-00 /035 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE/HLK  
APPROVED BY NEA - ALFRED L. ATHERTON, JR.  
NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN

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O 110024Z APR 75 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MANAMA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T STATE 082723

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, SA, OVIP (CLEMENTS, WILLIAM P.)

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLEMENTS VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA  
AND BAHRAIN

REF: MANAMA 0440

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ATHERTON

1. I CAN UNDERSTAND THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S RELUCTANCE  
ABOUT ADVANCE NOTICE OF CLEMENTS VISIT. BUT I WONDER IF  
HE AND YOU ARE LOOKING EQUALLY CLOSELY AT THE CONSEQUENCES  
OF NOT ANNOUNCING THE VISIT. IT WILL OF COURSE BECOME  
KNOWN WHEN IT TAKES PLACE, AND THAT IN TURN WILL LEAD TO  
QUESTIONS ABOUT WHY WE DID NOT ANNOUNCE IT AS WE HAD THE  
SAUDI ARABIAN PORTION.

2. FRANKLY I DO NOT THINK THERE IS ANY SATISFACTORY AN-  
SWER TO THAT KIND OF INQUIRY. ANY ATTEMPT TO DISSEMBLE  
BY SAYING IT WAS A LAST-MINUTE DECISION, OR SOME SUCH, WILL  
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ONLY LEAD US DEEPER INTO A MORASS WE HAVE NO BUSINESS

BEING IN IN THE FIRST PLACE. LACK OF FORTHRIGHTNESS FROM THE BEGINNING WILL ALSO INEVITABLY LEAD TO SPECULATION THAT THE BAHRAIN STOP HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH MIDEASTFOR, OR IN SOME OTHER EQUALLY UNDESIRABLE DIRECTION. THE FACTS

SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES: CLEMENTS VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA AND BAHRAIN IS A LONG-PLANNED PART OF OUR CONTINUING PROCESS OF CONSULTATION WITH OUR FRIENDS IN THE GULF. THE BEST WAY TO MINIMIZE ATTENTION TO THE BAHRAIN STOP IS TO ANNOUNCE IT ROUTINELY, AS WE HAVE PROPOSED, AT THE END OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT HAVING TO DO WITH SAUDI ARABIA.

3. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING A SECOND LOOK AT THIS, WITH THE EMPHASIS ON THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF NON-ANNOUNCEMENT. AS MATTERS STAND NOW, DOD WILL ANNOUNCE CLEMENTS TRIP AT 1000 LOCAL FRIDAY, APRIL 11. UNLESS GOB REMAINS ADAMANT, OR YOU HAVE A COMPELLING ARGUMENT TO THE CONTRARY (WHICH I WILL HAVE TO HAVE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS FRIDAY, PREFERABLY THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS), I PROPOSE TO TELL DOD TO STAND BY THE TEXT GIVEN IN STATE 081054 BUT DELETING WORDS "WHICH IS BASED THERE" AT END OF ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS RELEASES, MINISTERIAL VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 11 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
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